



## Introduction

The District of Columbia has received a one-year extension to its Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) waiver. The waiver provides the District extended relief from some of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) requirements in exchange for moving forward with the District's education reform agenda that is currently underway. This document provides useful information about the District's ESEA waiver and new assessments.

### 1 following 2014-2015

As PARCC results for the first year will only be available in the spring of 2015, OSSE will not be able to report them and thus associate consequences during the summer. Reporting results in the summer is necessary. Schools should be aware of their classification before the beginning of the school year, so that they can make the changes and preparations towards implementing school improvement plans that are required by OSSE.

In addition, OSSE is aware that test scores are sensitive to the type of assessment that is being used, and understand that relying only on data from one year of a particular assessment could jeopardize accuracy. OSSE is committed to basing accountability decisions on accurate and reliable data.

Finally, OSSE wants to make sure that there is an even playing field and that schools who are behind, in-terms of acquiring the technology and infrastructure needed for the digital assessment, have the necessary time to adjust. In the first year, many students will still take the paper-based version of PARCC, which is not as perfectly comparable to the digital one.

Therefore, DC will report PARCC scores during the fall of 2015, but will not classify new priority or focus schools. DC will resume school classification in the 2015-2016 school year.

### Schools will not be required to use

### 2 student growth measures that are based on the state assessment for the 2014-2015 teacher evaluations

For 2014-2015 teacher evaluation, schools will not be required to use student growth measures that are based on the state assessment. Other measures of student growth will have to account for at least 15%.

As is the case with school accountability, receiving the PARCC data in the fall of 2015 will not allow LEAs to report teacher evaluation results before the beginning of the school year. OSSE believes that the essence of teacher evaluation is to encourage improvement, reward talent and identify ineffective teachers before the beginning of the school year.

This change will only be in effect for the 2014-2015 school year. All teacher evaluation requirements, including the requirement to base 30% of the evaluation on student growth, measured by the state test, will be reinstated for the 2015-2016 school year.



## Timeline

